



The Presbyterian Church in Needham

The Messenger June 2010 Newsletter

Important Dates

As we move into the summer months, please keep these events and changes in mind:

Sunday, June 6

Congregational Meeting immediately after church to elect one elder and two deacons to fill vacancies on the church boards. The Nominating Committee will place the following names in nomination:

Deacon, Class of 2010
Deacon, Class of 2012

Sandria VanSickle
Nancy McIlwrath

If at all possible, there will also be a nomination for a member of Session in the Class of 2011. Nominations will also be received from the floor; if you wish to offer a nomination, please ask in advance to be sure person is available to serve if elected.

Sunday, June 13

Church School Recognition Day, worship at 11:00 followed by the annual Sunday School picnic. (Note: the picnic will be our church lunch for June; there is no separate lunch on the third Sunday)

Sunday, June 20

(Tentative) Service of Ordination and Installation for newly elected officers

Sunday, July 4

Summer Worship Schedule Begins
Morning worship at 10 am through Labor Day
Summer Worship will be light and informal – when you are in town, please join us!

Fall Retreat Planning

The Life of the Church Committee is starting now to plan a Church Retreat for late September. The first planning meeting is Wednesday, June 16 at 7:30.

Clean the Basement

There's too much stuff in the Basement and some of it needs to go so we have room for other uses. You name a time and Donnie will try to meet you. Weekends are very busy in June, so a weekday would be the best. But if you can help at all, call Donnie. He needs you (and so does the church)!

Music Notes

From our Director of Music, Pat Shopland

The choir was sad to say, "Good-bye" to Marieke at the choir luncheon on May 16th. Marieke has provided so many beautiful musical offerings with her voice and her flute over the years. The Choir will miss her music, warmth and kindness tremendously.

We had a wonderful afternoon on May 16th at "Songs of Faith" in our sanctuary 19 singers and musicians joined with the congregation in praising the Lord through traditional hymns, and contemporary songs of faith introduced by Charlie Marcus and the Worship Team from Redeemer Community Church. Bobby De Regis, Music Director of the Congregational Church of Needham., and four singers from his choir were also with us. Among Bobby's choir members was Crosby Goshgarian, who will be singing solos for us on several Sundays this summer. A narration, providing information on the historical background of the hymns, was provided by Rev. Maddie Sifantus, who will be singing Sunday soprano solos for us occasionally during 2010 – 2011.

I heard so many wonderful comments regarding the excellent program that I have scheduled a "Songs of Faith and Thanksgiving" for Sunday, November 7, 2010 at 4 p.m.

The Congregational Church will be joining us again, and hopefully one or two other choirs in town.

Another music program to be offered next year in our sanctuary will be two concerts of Renaissance choral music, scheduled for Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 8 pm. and Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 4 p.m. Our own Kent Jones and Dan Elg are both members of Prolatio Singers.

I have been attending planning meetings for an Interfaith Choir Concert to be performed in celebration of Needham's tercentennial anniversary in 2011. The planning meetings are convened by Millie Bean, Music Director, at Carter Memorial United Methodist Church. The Interfaith Choir Tercentennial Concert has been scheduled for Sunday, March 6, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. The time of the concert will be announced at a later date.

I will be away from the keyboard this summer to attend a professional conference in Washington, DC and to travel throughout Germany. While in Germany, I am hoping to have the opportunity to see several cathedrals and their beautiful pipe organs and stained glass windows. If you happen to notice that my organ shoes are not behind the organ bench this summer, you will know they are in my suitcase! A very special "Thank you!" to Dr. Kent Jones, who will be providing keyboard musical offerings on three of the Sundays I will be away. I hope everyone will have a wonderful and healthy summer!

Knitting News

43 Rainbow Stoles and Counting

The Monday Morning knitting circle has been busy this spring creating rainbow-colored stoles to be distributed by the More Light Network at the 219th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), which begins on July 3 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Stoles have been offered to all who will attend the General Assembly from the Presbytery of Boston, and the remainder are being mailed directly to Minneapolis. Forty-three have been completed so far, and several more will be finished by the deadline of June 12. Those who wear the stoles at the Assembly will declare their support for equal treatment of all Presbyterians in the life and leadership of our church.

A Time for Prayer

Let us raise our prayers this week for our church administrator, Desiree Lawson, and her entire family. Desiree's nephew, Cory Johnson (son of her sister Debra) was murdered on May 30 in another senseless act of violence in the City of Boston. As we hold Cory's family in prayer, let us also remember the religious community in Boston as they speak out against these atrocities, and the civil authorities who are working to make the streets safe, especially for young people, during the coming summer.

Arrangements for Cory are as follows:

Jefferson Cory Leon Johnson

Wake/Viewing Friday June 4; 5:00pm-8:00pm; Roxbury Presbyterian Church

Funeral Service/Repast Saturday June 5; Roxbury Presbyterian Church

10am-11am (final viewing); 11am - Funeral Service

Immediately following burial, return to RPC for repast/collation

Roxbury Presbyterian Church

328 Warren Street (corner of Woodbine Street)

Roxbury, MA 02119

617-445-2116